Columbus Day and Fall Safety

Safe Driving

- **Vehicle Preparation**
- **Driving and walking in adverse weather conditions (rain, storm fog, ice)**
- **Prevention of wild animal accidents**

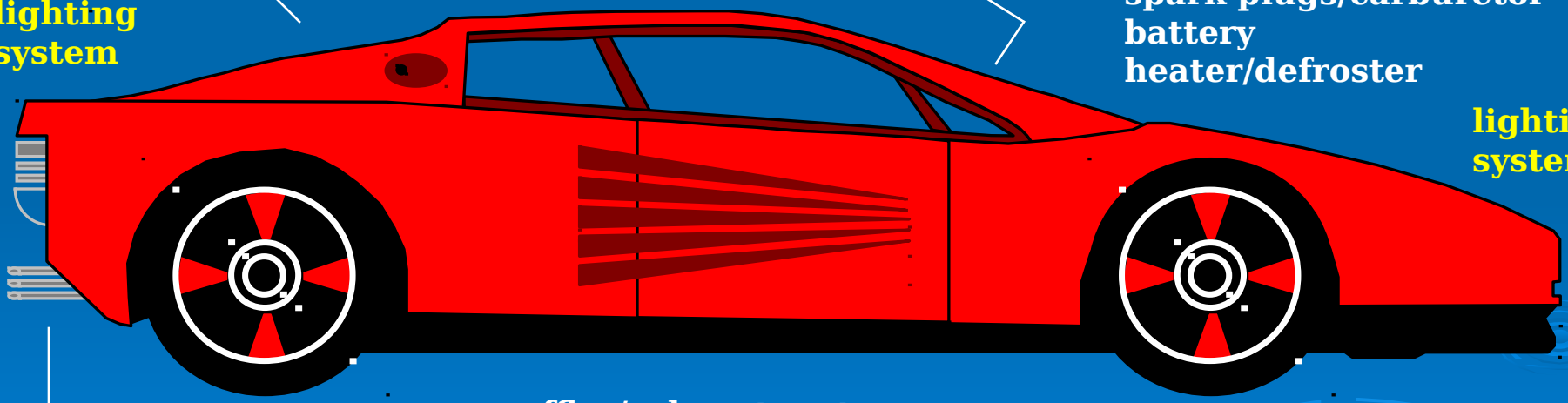
& ✔ your car before you end up in here

wind shield wipers and fluid

lighting system

anti freeze
spark plugs/carburetor
battery
heater/defroster

lighting system



muffler/exhaust system

winter tires
brake system

Vehicle Preparation

- Be sure all lights are in good working order.
- Have the brakes adjusted.

Routine precautions help you avoid starting problems:

- Get an engine tune-up in the fall.
- Remember to switch to winter-weight oil if you aren't already using all-season oil.
- Battery and voltage regulator should be checked.

Dirty oil can give you trouble in the winter, so change the oil and filter.

Vehicle Preparation

- If the battery terminal posts seem to be building up a layer of corrosion, clean them with a paste of baking soda and water. Let it foam, and then rinse with water. Then apply a thin film of petroleum jelly to the terminal posts to prevent corrosion, and reconnect. *Wear Eye protection*
- Be sure all fluids are at proper levels.
- Antifreeze should not only be strong enough to prevent freezing, but fresh enough to prevent rust.

Check all filters, including the fuel, air, and transmission filters

Vehicle Preparation

- Check your heating and cooling system for cracks and leaks. Make sure the radiator cap, water pump, and thermostat work properly. Test the strength of the anti-freeze and test the functioning of the heater and defroster.

- Make sure windshield wipers are in good condition and fill up on winter washer fluid. Ensure your windshield can give you clear vision of the road and traffic around you.

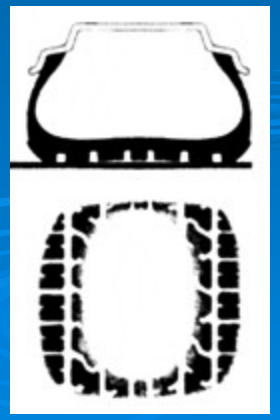
- Make sure wiper blades are cleaning properly. Consider changing to winter wiper blades, which are made for driving in snow. They are covered

Vehicle Preparation

HOT HOT HOT -- DON'T FORGET TO FILL UP WITH FUEL

TIRE SAFETY CAN SAVE YOUR LIFE

- **Don’t under-inflate or overload your tires.**
- **Check your tire pressure regularly as well as the condition of the tire.**
- **Excessive wear on the tread and cracks on sidewalls are signs of tire problems.**



Correc Over-inflated Under-inflated

Results of an underinflated tire

Driving in adverse weather conditions

Impaired vision

Hydro-planing

Rain

Impaired vision

- ***Slow down and i n c r e a s e the distance to the vehicle driving ahead.***
- ***TURN YOUR LIGHTS ON***

Whenever daytime visibility is less than ideal, turning on your lights allows you to see, and to be seen by others.

Remember this rule of thumb:

Hydroplaning

roplaning is the result of tires moving fast across a wet surface.

STEP 1: The water can not be channeled away from the center of the tire.

STEP 2: The water forms a wedge between the tire and the road.

STEP 3: The tire is lifted from the road by the water and looses all traction.

This is what your tire is basically d ng !

Hydroplaning

Tread depth

Tread design

Speed

Tire pressure

Factors that have an impact on hydroplaning

Weight of vehicle

Road Surface

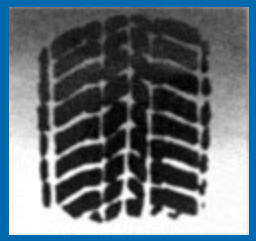
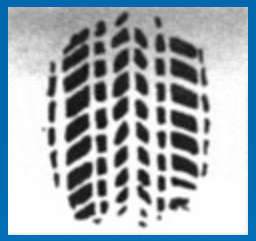
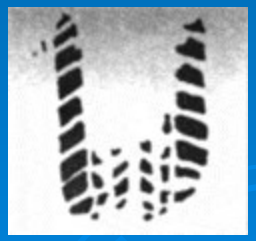
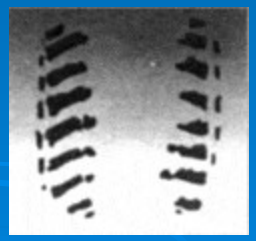
Depth of water

You don’t have any or only a minor influence on the bottom factor

Therefore, concentrate all your efforts to control the top factors.

Hydroplaning

Tread Depth

Speed	0.31 in 8 mm	0.12 in 3 mm	0.06 in 1.6 mm
0 mph 0 km/h			
43 mph 70 km/h			
62 mph 100 km/h			

Remember: Good tires and reduced speed can save your

Hydroplaning

Safety tips for drivers:

- Slow down and i n c r e a s e the distance to the vehicle driving ahead.
- Watch out for water accumulations. They mostly occur after heavy rain showers in curves, on slopes, on uneven roads, roads with grooves, in underpasses, on wide roads, and at intersections.
- If your car starts hydroplaning slow down by letting off the gas pedal and keep the steering wheel straight.

Hydroplaning

Where does hydroplaning mostly

Curves

Hills

Uneven Roads

Underpasses

Wide Roads

Intersections

Driving in adverse weather conditions

Fog

Fog

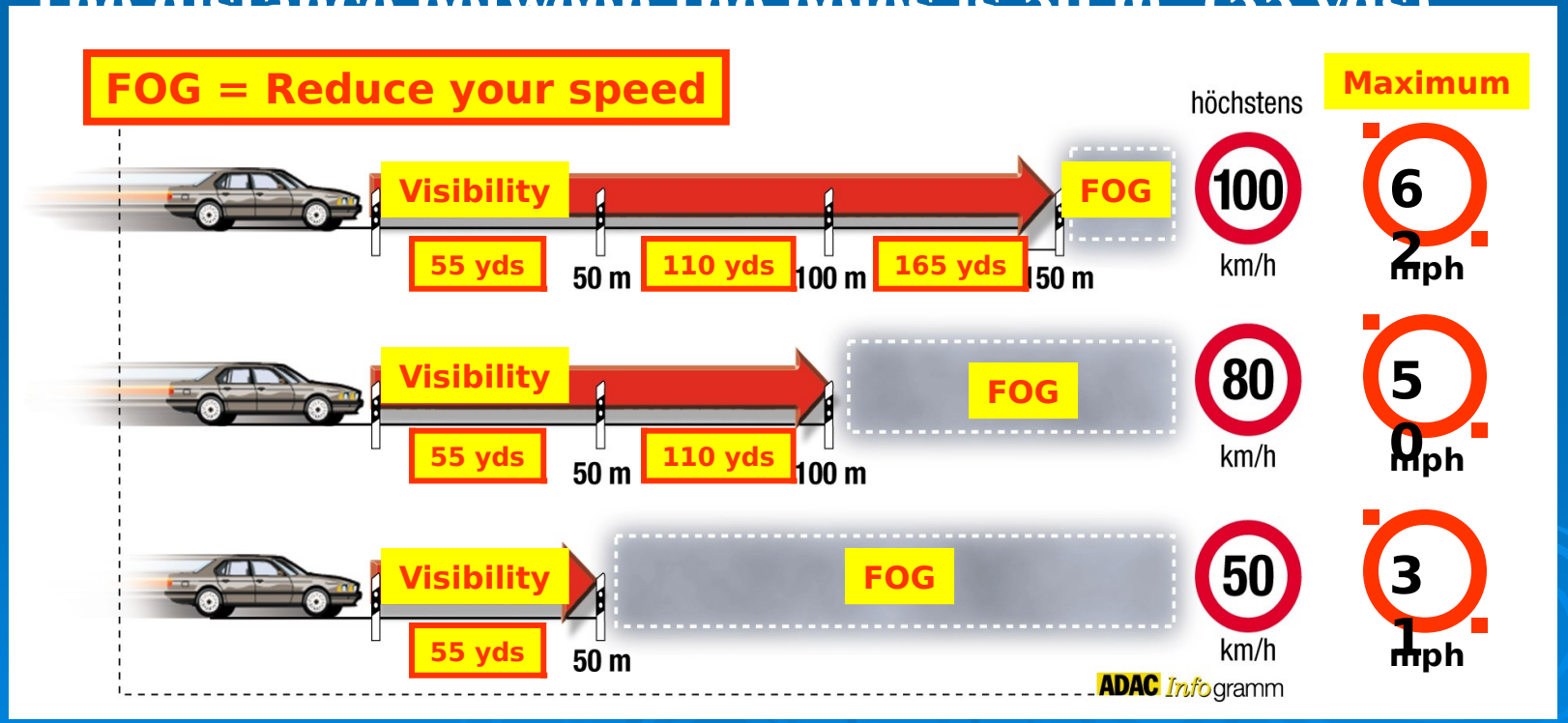
Safety tips for drivers:

- Keep your windows and lights clean.
- Adjust your speed to visibility.
- Slow down and i n c r e a s e the distance to the vehicle driving ahead.
- TURN YOUR LIGHTS ON – (Head lights and fog headlights available). Turning on your lights allows you to see, and to seen by others.
- The use of the rear fog light is only authorized if the visibili below 50 meters. This applies in and out of built-up areas.
- Driving in the fog is stressful and requires a lot of concentration.
  Therefore, drivers should take regular breaks at rest areas.
- But don't turn off your lights in rest areas so that other driv

Fog

Safety tips for drivers:

- The reflecting poles along the roadside are a good tool in estimating visibility.
- The distance between the poles is 50 m. (55 yds)



Driving
in adverse weather conditions

Black Ice

Black Ice

Black ice can be one of the most dangerous conditions on fall
and winter roads .

- It is almost invisible and can catch drivers off guard.

- Black ice is clear and appears black because the dark asphalt
surface underneath shows through.

- It can form on heavily congested highways from auto emissions, but other roads are susceptible including those in
shaded areas, near lakes and rivers, in tunnels and on overpasses.

- Black ice forms when the air temperature is warmer than
pavement, which causes moisture to rapidly freeze and

Black Ice

Safety tips for drivers:

- Be aware that black ice is almost invisible.
- Be especially careful on bridges, overpasses, near lakes or rivers, in shaded areas, tunnels, in the vicinity of power plants and in early morning when the air temperature is rising faster than the pavement temperature.
- Never brake while driving on ice. Applying pressure to your brakes while on ice will cause a vehicle to skid. Brake only during your approach.

Pedestrian Safety

- Studies have shown that pedestrians walking along a road in dark clothing at night are first seen approximately 55 feet away giving the driver less than one second reaction time.

- A driver traveling at 60 mph needs over 260 feet to stop.

"SEE AND BE SEEN"